(d) the areas of land to be covered with tree plantation and soil and water conservation activities under the project;

(e) whether the project will help in the rehabilitation and protection of natural forests;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken under the scheme to increase the area under green cover, timber and bamboo?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) A forestry project costing Rs. 566 crores is being implemented in 17 districts, including Bellary district, of Karnataka with assistance from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan under the official development assistance. About 85% of the project cost will be provided by Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund as loan. The Project is to be implemented over a period of 5 years.

(d) to (g) The project envisages area coverage of 4,70,500 hectares through afforestation and soil conservation activities in degraded forests, protection of natural forests, distribution and planting of seedlings under farm forestry and afforestation of Government wastelands, common lands, and institutional lands. Involvement of local people in planning and implementation of project activities is one of the important thrust areas under the project. The project also supports technology upgradation.

Import of Sugar by STC

1682. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of sugar imported by the State Trading Corporation recently; and

(b) the impact thereof on the sugar industry and on cane growers ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No sugar has been imported by State Trading Corporation of India during the financial year 1996-97.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Budget Provisions for Minorities

1683. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the budgetary provisions have not been made so far for the sanctioned Fifteen Point Programmes for the welfare of minorities; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Government are likely to provide budgetary assistance in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) 15-Point Programme for the welfare of minorities basically aims at securing life and property to the minorities and ensuring social and educational development for them. The programme does not specifically envisage any separate budgetary provision for this purpose. However, the Govt. of India has been implementing certain schemes through the Ministry of Welfare as well as the Deptt. of Education for the welfare of minorities. Multi-Sectoral Plans are being prepared for 41 minority concentration districts and an amount of Rs. 1 crore has been allocated under this scheme for VIII Plan. The National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation, which has been set up on 30.9.94 to provide loans at concessional rates to people belonging to minority communities, has been allocated an amount of Rs. 125 crores during the VIIIth plan period. For pre-examination coaching scheme for weaker sections among minorities an amount of Rs. 10 crores has been allocated during the VIIIth Plan Period. Besides, the Deptt. of Education has been implementing Schemes of Modernisation of Madrasa Education Community polytechnics and Area Intensive Programme for educationally backward minorities. Rs. 1 crore, Rs. 30 crore and Rs. 16.27 crore have been allocated during VIIIth Plan for these schemes respectively.

[English]

Implementation of Special Component Plan in Karnataka

1684. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the achievement made under the Special Component Plan (SCP) in Karnataka during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) the fund earmarked for implementing the Special Component Plan during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the target fixed for providing benefits to the Scheduled Castes in the Ninth Plan period alongwith other details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The details are given below :

I. Financial

Details of State Plan outlay, SCP outlay & SCP expenditure during 1992-93 to 1996-97:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	State Plan outlay	SCP outlay	% of SCP to State Plan outlay	SCP expn.	% of SCP expn. to SCP outlay
1992-93	1915.00	176.02	9.19	160.49	91.18
1993-94	3025.00	280.69	9.27	258.93	92.24
1994-95	2800.00	303.81	10.85	289.21	95.19
1995-96	3575.00	338.79	9.50	315.38	93.25
1996-97	4360.00	415.16	9.52	N.A.	—

II. Physical

No. of SC families economically assisted as monitored under Point 11A of TPP

Year	Target	Achievement	%age
1992-93	125000	130268	104
1993-94	127000	157105	124
1994-95	168000	202513	121
1995-96	200000	230273	115
1996-97	200000	N.A.	—

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Fisheries and Aquaculture Scheme

1685. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are implementing various development schemes for the fisheries and aquaculture;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes;

(c) the progress of those schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(d) whether the same schemes would be implemented in Ninth Plan;

(e) if so, the fund earmarked therefor; and

(f) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The following major central sector/centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented for the development of fisheries and aquaculture in the State/Union Territories :

(i) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture

(ii) Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development

(iii) Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries

  (a) Motorisation of Traditional Craft

  (b) Introduction of Plywood Craft

  (c) Introduction of Intermediate Type of Craft for Offshore Pelagic Fishing

  (d) Re-imbursement of Central Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel (HSD) Oil used by Fishing Vessels below 20 m length

(iv) Enforcement of Marine fishing Regulation Act (MFRA) and Resource Enhancement through Introduction of Artificial Reefs & Sea farming Projects

(v) Fishing Harbour facilities at Major Ports

(vi) Provision of Fishing Harbour facilities at Minor Ports

(vii) Assistance for strengthening of Inland Fish Marketing

(viii) Welfare of Fishermen

  (a) Group Accident Insurance

  (b) Model Fishermen Villages

  (c) Saving-cum-Relief

(ix) Training & Fishery Extension

(x) World Bank Assisted Shrimp and Fish Culture Project

(c) A Statement showing the State-wise progress of various important items under the above schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan is enclosed.

(d) to (f) Most of the above schemes and some new schemes will be implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan for the development of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The actual funds to be allotted for various fishery development schemes during the Ninth Five Year Plan have not been finalised.